

Rain Barrels in the Tacony-Frankford Watershed

Stormwater BMP Project

Tacony-Frankford Watershed



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Status: Monitoring

Partners:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Philadelphia Water Department

US Department of Commerce (USDOC)

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)
Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTFWP)

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This project distributed rain barrels to residents in the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed and surrounding areas. In total, 215 rain barrels were distributed to residents, most receiving one barrel and several receiving multiple barrels. The participants were asked to attend a workshop on the use, maintenance, and environmental benefits of a rain barrel. This project was intended to demonstrate the acceptance of rain barrel use by residents and there was the added long-term environmental benefit of stormwater collection by the participants. Although the stormwater collected by these people is just a small fraction of what enters into the sewer system, the potential of extending this project to more residents would increase the benefit.



Benefits:

- Decreasing the impact of runoff to streams
- Raising awareness about the impact that a single home can have on the hydrologic cycle, the quantity of stormwater runoff generated, and the resulting watershed impacts
- Promoting water conservation and providing a mechanism for reducing dependency on potable water supplies for many outdoor consumptive uses
- Ability to evaluate the willingness of the general public to contribute to minimizing the impacts of stormwater runoff at their home



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